

THE LATTER-DAY SAINTS' MILLENNIAL STAR.

[ESTABLISHED 1840.]

"No man can receive the Holy Ghost without receiving revelations. The Holy Ghost is a Revelator."—JOSEPH SMITH.

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CONVENTION OF CONFERENCE PRESIDENTS.

THE sixth Conference Presidents' Convention held in the British mission, convened in response to President Clawson's call, at the Latter-day Saints' Chapel, Sycamore Road, Handsworth, Birmingham, on Thursday, March 13th, 1913. There were in attendance: President Rudger Clawson, of the European mission; Conference Presidents Warren S. Tew, of Birmingham; Wilford W. Rich, of Bristol; John F. Oleson, of Hull; Samuel H. Cornaby, of Irish conference; Melvin J. Benson, of Leeds; William H. Stayner, of Liverpool; Lafayette Jackson, of Manchester; Cyril Duffin, of Newcastle; Amos R. Cook, of Norwich; Thomas E. Winegar, of Nottingham; Peter S. Condie, of Scottish conference; Milton Jacob, of Sheffield; Elder E. Taft Benson, Secretary of the British mission; and Elder Hugh Ireland, associate editor of the *Millennial Star*. President James B. Walkley, of London conference, being unable to attend on account of sickness, was represented by Elder Thomas E. Briggs.

The first session began at 11:15 a.m., by singing, "Guide us, O Thou great Jehovah." Prayer was offered by Elder Hugh Ireland. Singing, "Come, follow Me." Elder Hugh Ireland was asked to act as secretary of the convention.

President Clawson expressed his pleasure at again meeting in convention with the conference presidents. That they could thus meet in the city of Birmingham, in a chapel belonging to the Church, was particularly gratifying. While the Church owned other properties in these lands, yet that was the only building that had been constructed by them. It emphasized their presence and progress in Birmingham. He was glad to meet the leading men of the British mission, that they might take counsel together as to the affairs in their jurisdiction. He regretted that President Walkley

was unable to be present with them. That was the sixth convention of conference presidents that had come together. By meeting in this way they had an opportunity to get better acquainted with each other. Each convention had practically a new complexion. Eight new presidents had been appointed since they met six months ago. Notwithstanding some persecution during the past six months, he was happy to say that there had been an improvement along many lines of work. There had been more tracts and books distributed in 1912 than during the previous year. As a result of bitter opposition there had been a decrease in gospel conversations. He felt encouraged in the work. In giving their reports, he desired the presidents to speak of the results of the minimum rule as to tracting. He would also like to hear any suggestions they had to offer. While he (President Clawson) would be pleased to meet all the elders in the mission in a general assembly, yet in these presidents' conventions, composed of men representing the different conferences, more good could be accomplished. Vital questions affecting the welfare of the mission would receive more careful and thorough attention, thus bringing better and more lasting results. And besides it would work a hardship on the elders financially to call them together in one place from all parts of the mission. Two or three sessions of a convention would hardly justify it.

Continuing, President Clawson said: I have looked forward to this convention. It is a happy day, and I am glad to be with you. I appreciate your faith and diligence, my brethren, in the service of the Lord. As President of the mission, I must depend upon you to convey my counsels and instructions to the elders. This is where these conventions are particularly effective. We have the right and authority to make rules and to see that they are carried out. I have recently visited the French and German missions and found the same good spirit there that is present in this convention. I realize that I am addressing men who are ready to give their lives, if necessary, in defense of the truth. We are here to preach the gospel, and must fight our way inch by inch and take our chances. I rejoice in the light of the gospel. I know that the work we are engaged in is of God. Joseph Smith was truly a Prophet of God. The power and authority received by him from heaven he conferred upon others, and that authority is in our midst to-day. I pray that God will bless us continually, that we may have sufficient light and faith to enable us to go forward valiantly and proclaim the gospel message. Great joy and glory will be ours if we remain faithful in the service of the Lord. May God bless and strengthen us to this end is my earnest prayer.

Reports were then called for and given in the following order:

President Warren S. Tew (Birmingham) welcomed all present to their new chapel. He felt they were much blessed in Birmingham in having such a beautiful meeting place. The meetings in

the new chapel were much better attended than formerly. They now had an average attendance of about two hundred. He believed that if they had more buildings of the kind far greater success could be attained. Some of the branches in that conference were meeting under adverse circumstances. In two places they were without a hall. Two new branches had lately been opened. The elders generally were working to the best of their ability. Some of them had exceeded the minimum. The saints had remained faithful during the recent persecution, and their testimonies had been strengthened greatly. They expected soon to have fifteen or more baptisms. He found that tithing was a good test of faith among the saints. He believed the future would see a rich harvest of souls in the Birmingham conference. He felt that tracting was most important, being the only way by which the gospel could be got before many people. He testified that Joseph Smith was a true prophet of God, and said the Church he established would yet be recognized as the greatest in the world.

President Wilford W. Rich (Bristol) felt pleased and honored to be associated with the presidents in convention. He rejoiced in the work of the Lord, and desired to aid in its advancement. He knew it was the true and everlasting gospel they were teaching. In the Bristol conference there were five branches. The saints were trying to live up to the gospel, and he felt proud of their faith and integrity. In the matter of tithing, their record was better than formerly. They were meeting with considerable success among the Welsh people. In some places it was difficult to get the people to accept their literature. He was thankful for the opportunity to come into the world as a representative of the restored gospel. Hoped he would have the faith and courage to do his full duty. The new tracting rule was working well and the elders were trying to live up to it. They kept the word of wisdom and were laboring diligently to get the gospel before the people.

President Clawson wished to impress upon the presidents the necessity of seeing that the elders kept the word of wisdom.

President John F. Oleson (Hull) said these conventions were of great importance. The counsels and instructions they received there could be communicated to the elders, and by them to the local priesthood and the saints generally. Thus the spirit of the convention could be carried to all the conferences and members of the different branches. Tracting was an important part of missionary work. The elders in the Hull conference were agreed as to the wisdom of the minimum rule, and were trying to come up to it. The word of wisdom was observed by them. They should keep the law of God themselves, if they were going to teach others to do so. They could look for greater success by taking that course. The elders were laboring diligently to spread the truth, and were treated well by the people. He prayed that the Lord would bless and prosper them in their labors.

President Samuel H. Cornaby (Irish conference) felt it a privilege to be present at another presidents' convention. He had been greatly blessed in his labors. A good work was being done in the Irish conference. They had twenty-three baptisms in the past six months, and all were good members. They were getting many out to the meetings. There were only two branches in Ireland—one in Belfast and one in Dublin. The hall in Belfast, which has one hundred and sixty chairs, was often filled. Political excitement during recent months had interfered with their work. The new tracting rule was working well in the Irish conference. Before its adoption, however, some were doing more than the minimum. It was against the law to hold street meetings in Belfast. Such meetings do much good and help to develop the elders. Cottage meetings were held regularly. The elders were keeping the word of wisdom, and were united in their work. They had labored to improve the tithing record among the saints and had been successful. Bore testimony to the truth of the gospel, and prayed that the blessing of the Lord would be with them.

President Melvin J. Benson (Leeds) said there had been an improvement in conditions generally in the Leeds conference since last presidents' convention. The tracting record was very good. Some of the elders were putting in as much as fifty-five hours a week. They are faithful and diligent in their labors. He found that social meetings were a great help in their work, by bringing the elders, saints and investigators in closer touch. Prospects were good for baptisms. Twenty or more were ready for the ordinance. The elders and saints were working unitedly. The meetings were well attended. In two of the branches they had not room enough. With one exception, the branches were all growing. In some places the anti-"Mormons" were very active. The elders were enjoying the spirit of their calling, and he looked for good results to follow their labors.

President Clawson said that in future, when the brethren were reporting baptisms, he would ask them to say how many were adults and how many children. He would like to have that information. He was delighted with the progress they had made, and also with the spirit of the meeting and the testimony of the elders.

The session closed by singing, "The gospel standard high is raised." Benediction by Elder Thomas E. Briggs.

The afternoon session commenced at 2:45 o'clock. Singing, "Praise to the man who communed with Jehovah." Prayer by Elder E. Taft Benson. Singing, "If you could hie to Kolob."

President Clawson said they were all delighted to have Professor John J. McClellan with them. He was there when that chapel was dedicated. They all felt to honor Professor McClellan for the testimony he had borne to the truth and also because he had devoted his talents to the glory of God.

President Clawson here called the attention of the presidents

to the new Bible that had been compiled at the request of a former convention, particulars of which will be found in another place in this issue.

President William H. Stayner (Liverpool) reported that in his conference there were nine branches, and the number of elders now laboring was twenty. Eight of the branches had halls in which to meet. The greatest difficulty they had to encounter was the indifference of the people. During the past six months there had been seventeen baptisms. He believed all the elders in Liverpool conference observed the word of wisdom. They were united in their work and laboring diligently to get the gospel before the people. He felt proud to be associated with them in the work of the ministry. He was glad to be able to report an increase in tithing. Was thankful for the opportunity of coming to this land to bear witness to the truth. He had a testimony of the gospel before he came here, but it had been greatly strengthened as a result of his labors as a missionary. He trusted that the convention would be a source of strength and inspiration to them all. Prayed that the choicest blessings of God would be with them.

Elder Hugh Ireland read a detailed report from President James B. Walkley (London), which showed that the average number of elders laboring in that conference during the past six months was twenty-nine. There were nine regularly-organized branches, in addition to which cottage meetings were being held regularly in several other places. There had been eighteen baptisms during the past six months. The elders all seemed to be imbued with the true missionary spirit and were feeling well in their work. They found that the *Star* was a good medium for keeping the saints in remote places in touch with the work, and had secured eighteen new subscribers for the same during the past six months. Persecution had not been very severe, although there had been many attempts to create sentiment against them. In Portsmouth, where they had been threatened for months, they were now receiving police protection, as a result of representations made to the chief of police and the Home Secretary. The people were beginning to see the utter ridiculousness of the anti-"Mormon" stories. There had been an increase in tithing in practically all the branches. Conditions generally were very promising, and as to street meetings, they were looking forward to a good season's work.

President Lafayette Jackson (Manchester) was pleased to meet with the presidents again in convention. He knew that much good had resulted from former conventions. Personally he had derived much benefit from the last one. The elders in his conference were trying to come up to the minimum required by the new tracting rule. Good results were being obtained, as the averages were rising. He found that cottage meetings were very successful. Tracting was difficult in some places, as the people would not receive their literature. He recognized the importance of tracting,

and had encouraged the elders to do their best. In some branches it was necessary to do a good deal of visiting. One branch had been without a meeting place for a year. On account of mobbing, their former hall had been refused them, and they had been unable to secure another. The branches were all in good condition. The elders were united in their work. He believed all of them were observing the word of wisdom. He prayed that God would bless them and make them equal to all the duties that devolved upon them.

President Amos R. Cook (Norwich) appreciated the privilege of being present and partaking of the good spirit of that convention. He had received much benefit from the last one. They had some interesting times in the Norwich conference the past six months. The elders were all feeling well in their work. In Ipswich there had been a branch for ten years. Usually two elders labored there. One night, when there was only one elder there, a mob of two or three hundred men broke into their meeting and destroyed the furniture. For several weeks there were serious disturbances, which were participated in by thousands of people. They were repeatedly mobbed, and some received injuries. They fasted and prayed over the matter, and he could testify that a protecting hand had been over them. It took faith to continue the fight, but, with the help of the Lord, they were able to hold their ground. The elders in his conference were a fine body of men. They were united in their work and were doing their best to get the gospel before the people. As a result of the persecution in Ipswich some of their best members were moving away. They now had many investigators there. The saints were a good people and were endeavoring to live up to the gospel. He felt to rejoice in the goodness of the Lord. Bore testimony to the truth of the gospel, and prayed that they might all be enabled to continue in the good work.

A question was asked as to whether all the conferences included the president and the clerk in their labor reports.

President Clawson replied—It is understood that presidents and clerks of conference are to be included in all reports.

President Clawson said they would all like to hear from Professor John J. McClellan, who would now address them.

Professor McClellan said he had enjoyed the spirit of the meeting very much. The same beautiful and helpful spirit was present in all the meetings of the saints he had attended in the different countries visited by him. It was the same eleven years ago when he formerly visited these countries. This gave him a positive conviction that the influence of the Spirit of God was the same always. The sentiment of his heart was that he would rather be a true man than an emperor or a king. The speaker related some of his experiences in Germany. While there he did not conceal the fact that he was a "Mormon," and found that he was treated with respect all the same. He loved the gospel and hoped to always prove a faithful member of the true Church. His eyes had

been opened to many truths as a result of his visit to these lands. He was proud of the "Mormon" people, and felt it a privilege to be numbered with them. The gospel had taught him to do what was right. The more he saw of the people of the world the more he loved his own people. He prayed that God would bless and strengthen them all for their work.

By request, Professor McClellan favored the convention with two organ solos—"I need Thee every hour" and "Reverently and meekly now"—the rendition of which was characterized by great depth of feeling and power of expression.

President Clawson spoke of Professor McClellan's willingness to respond to calls made upon him in his line of work. This was always a characteristic of great spirits. It was a pleasure to meet with such people; their mission seemed to be to build up and to bless their fellows. He (President Clawson) considered that Professor McClellan was filling a great mission, to which he had been divinely appointed. The Prophet Isaiah had predicted that the voice of melody and of rejoicing would be heard in the last days in the mountains of Israel. Perhaps we know but little as yet as to the possibilities of music. The heavenly and the earthly choirs will ultimately be united. He believed that Professor McClellan, like many others, had developed his wonderful talents in a former existence. He felt assured the Lord would continue to bless him.

Continuing, President Clawson said, if he were asked what was the strongest point a missionary could develop, he would say, purity of heart, life and character. Without this no one could succeed in missionary work. He said the world little knows the standard of morality that is inculcated among the Latter-day Saints. No other church insists so strongly on personal purity. The character of the men he was addressing bore witness to that fact. He needed no stronger testimony to the divinity of the gospel. But, having regard to the conditions by which they were surrounded, he felt it his duty to warn them of the temptations and perils to which they were exposed. Their safety lay in keeping the commandments of the Lord and obeying the counsels of His servants. In a few instances these counsels had been rejected, and men had fallen. He asked the presidents to take this word of counsel and communicate it to the elders. We must be careful and avoid even the appearance of evil. Many were being raised in the very atmosphere of crime and lost their virtue before they were aware of it. Our elders, as ministers of God, must keep themselves pure and sweet. The Spirit of God will not dwell in a corrupt heart. Our bodies are temples of God and must be kept clean and holy. He prayed that the Lord would bless them and preserve them from evil, and crown their labors with success.

The session closed by singing, "Who are these arrayed in white?" Benediction by President Cyril Duffin.

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

THE LATTER-DAY SAINTS' MILLENNIAL STAR.

THURSDAY, APRIL 17, 1913.

EDITORIAL.

VALEDICTORY.

HAVING been honorably released by the First Presidency to return home immediately, I avail myself of this, my only, opportunity to say good-bye to the elders and saints and many friends numbered with the readers of the *Star* in the European mission. It is with sincere regret that I sever my connection with the work of the Lord in this distant part of His vineyard, but at the same time I look forward with pleasure to my reunion with the authorities, saints and loved ones in Zion. I arrived in Liverpool June 4th, 1910, and took charge of the European mission June 11th, seven days later. By the time I reach Salt Lake City, my absence will have covered a period of about three years.

The time has passed rapidly, and in the main pleasantly away. I have been deeply engrossed in the duties of my calling. During the period named, besides giving due attention to a large amount of correspondence that has constantly flowed into headquarters, and writing many editorials for the *Star*. I have visited the thirteen conferences of the British mission at least twice a year, and have traveled extensively in Denmark, Norway, Sweden, Holland, Belgium, Switzerland, Germany and France. The obligation of making conference presidents' appointments, assigning incoming elders to their various fields of labor in England, Scotland, Ireland and Wales; of giving general supervision to departing companies of saints, of answering numerous questions on doctrine, discipline, etc., has borne down heavily upon me, but the Lord in His mercy has heard my prayers and ever given me the needed help. I rejoice in His blessing and salvation.

The work of the Lord has prospered exceedingly throughout the European mission. During the past three years from January 1st, 1910, to the present time, there have been distributed 10,686,116 tracts, 212,813 books, and 1,470 persons have been added to the Church by baptism in the British mission alone, while in other parts of the European mission there have been at least 7,054,715 tracts distributed, 482,203 books distributed, and 3,896 persons baptized, making in the aggregate about 17,740,831 tracts and 695,016 books distributed, and 5,366 persons baptized.

The foregoing results were accomplished by Divine blessing, but in the face of many adverse and trying conditions.

In the British mission the elders have been brought face to face with the spirit of persecution. Scenes of violence and mobocracy (many of them already described in the columns of the *Star*) were enacted at Birkenhead, Bootle, Heywood, Sunderland, Seaton Hirst, Nuneaton, Birmingham, Bristol, London and Ipswich. The elders in these places were subjected to many gross insults and in numerous instances to personal assaults, from which they suffered more or less bodily injury. This will not be wondered at when it is remembered that rocks, bricks, potatoes studded with glass, and other dangerous as well as unsavory missiles were hurled at their devoted heads. Be it said to their everlasting honor that these worthy, valiant servants of the Lord bore the indignity with patience and fortitude. Being reviled, they reviled not again; being persecuted, they did not persecute; for cursings they gave blessings, and thus earned the right to be called the children of peace.

It will be gratifying to all lovers of liberty, justice and equal rights to know that the spirit of persecution has subsided in the British mission, and that the Latter-day Saints are at present permitted to worship the Lord, in accordance with the dictates of their consciences, unmolested.

The spirit of persecution has also confronted the elders at times in Denmark, Norway and Sweden, giving them much trouble, annoyance and anxiety, but, remembering the admonition of the Savior, who said, "Blessed are ye, when men shall hate you, and when they shall separate you from their company, and shall reproach you, and cast out your name as evil, for the Son of man's sake. Rejoice ye in that day, and leap for joy: for, behold, your reward is great in heaven: for in the like manner did their fathers unto their prophets" (Luke 6: 22-23), they were inspired with new hope, greater faith, and a fixed, unalterable determination to carry the gospel of salvation to the children of men who are groping in the regions of doubt and spiritual despair. Their humble efforts were crowned with success—many souls having been gathered into the true fold of Christ.

In Germany the elders have been seriously hampered in their gospel work by reason of frequent banishments; but it is worthy of mention, however, that the character and lives of these humble servants of the Lord are above and beyond reproach, and the banishments alluded to can only be attributed to prejudice in the minds of their opponents. In the face of adverse conditions the work in Germany has nevertheless greatly prospered, and many honest souls bless the day that the gospel message reached them.

In Switzerland, Holland and Belgium is to be found the widest religious toleration, and in these countries our Church membership has steadily grown during the past three years. The work is also being prosecuted with vigor in distant South Africa. It is a wide field for missionary effort, but the laborers are few.

The organization of the French mission, which occurred October 15th, 1912, was a distinct step in advance, and marked an epoch of great interest and importance to the European mission. Good results are already seen in an increase of baptisms. The saints, having an organization of their own, with a French-speaking president, are drawn more closely together, and the elders have imbibed a spirit of enthusiasm that was lacking under former conditions. The prospects, therefore, are bright for the French mission, and a splendid work will surely be accomplished during 1913.

It will be seen from the foregoing that the work in these six important missions is in good hands and is being prosecuted with untiring diligence and forcefulness. The presidents are able, fearless, valiant defenders of the truth, as were their predecessors, and the elders under their jurisdiction give ready and willing obedience to their counsels. Presenting a united front, success must and will follow. It has already perched upon their banners.

A spirit of perfect harmony and oneness has existed from the beginning between myself as President of the British mission and my conference presidents—these leading men with whom I have been so intimately associated. This has been accentuated by the Conference Presidents' Conventions, held twice a year, at which opportunity is given for testimonies, reports and discussion of matters pertaining to the best interests of the work. Untold good has already resulted from these gatherings. Union of hearts, union of purpose, union of effort—this is what we sought—this is what we have attained, under the blessing of the Lord. I appreciate the integrity and faithfulness of the conference presidents, and am sure that their faith, devotion and sacrifices are accepted of the Master, who has smiled upon them all the day long and crowned their labors with success.

I am proud of the traveling elders who have labored in the British mission during my incumbency of office—some 725 in all. Ninety per cent. of the number were young men—many of them striplings, as it were, who came into the field without previous missionary experience, but who, through prayer and study, and the spirit of humility, rapidly developed into strong advocates of the gospel. Their faith, their patience, their steadfastness of purpose, their exemplary lives, their devotion to the work, have won many souls to Christ and have endeared them to the hearts of the Latter-day Saints in this land.

It is with pleasure that I allude to the elders who have so ably assisted me in the work at headquarters. The readers of the *Star* are familiar with the inspired writings of Elders S. Norman Lee and Hugh Ireland, who for many months filled the position of associate editor. Elders Alma L. Sonne and Fred R. Woolley were appointed to look after emigration matters, to compile statistical reports for the British and European missions from time to time, and give help in taking dictation of letters, etc. In the

performance of these important duties, they exhibited skill and ability of a high order, and have accomplished a great and good work. Elders D. Ray Shurtliff and E. Taft Benson acted in the capacity of secretary of the European mission at different periods, as did the other brethren in their appointments, having in charge the books and accounts of the Liverpool office. These brethren, being well versed in the science of accounts, performed the duties of their responsible calling with credit to themselves and honor to the cause.

It is worthy of note that during the past three years the British mission business has been entirely separated from the Liverpool office business, which greatly simplifies the accounting. The work accomplished by these brethren, though of a somewhat different character to that of field work, is quite as important and could not be dispensed with, or neglected, without bringing reproach upon the mission.

The Church has come into possession of important real estate holdings in the European mission within the past three years. I point with pride to the chapels in Northampton, Sunderland, West Hartlepool and Birmingham. A fine meeting house property has also been acquired at Bergen, Norway.

In connection with the foregoing properties mention should be made of our valuable holdings acquired at an earlier period—namely, the headquarters at Copenhagen, Stockholm, London, the chapels at Sheffield and Manchester, and the headquarters of the European mission at Liverpool. These chapels, which are neatly furnished, are used by the Latter-day Saints in the worship of the Lord, and are a mute but nevertheless impressive witness of the stability of the work that is being prosecuted in Great Britain and upon the Continent by a greatly misunderstood people.

It will perhaps be of interest to readers of the *Star* to know that steps are being taken to acquire a lot and build a chapel in the city of Nuneaton, where but recently scenes of mob violence were witnessed, culminating in the tarring and feathering of a "Mormon" elder.

The great Latter-day work, both at home and abroad, gives many evidences of solid and permanent growth. I have rejoiced in my labors while in the mission field. I know that the gospel, as delivered to the saints in this day and age, is the "power of God unto salvation." I solemnly testify that Joseph Smith was and is a true Prophet of God, and that Jesus is the Christ, the Savior of the world. Had I the tongue of an angel, I would declare these truths to all men, and call upon them to repent of their sins and obey the gospel.

There are many humble, faithful and devoted Latter-day Saints in the European mission whose acquaintance and association through our Church gatherings have become very precious to me. I shall ever feel an abiding interest in their welfare.

I exhort you, brethren and sisters, to continue in faithfulness to the end, and to you and to the elders generally throughout the mission I say good-bye, and God bless you.

RUDGER CLAWSON.

NOTICE.

To the Elders and Saints and to all others whom it may concern:

Elder E. Taft Benson is hereby appointed to take charge of the affairs of the European mission, as Acting President, until such time as my successor in office arrives in the field. Said appointment to be in force on and after April 11th, 1913.

RUDGER CLAWSON, President.

New Bible on Sale.—We are carrying in stock at headquarters the New Bible, compiled at the request of the conference presidents, with Oxford helps, dictionary of proper names, subject index, concordance, Kelsch's Ready Reference, and indexed atlas, bound in Persian grained yapp, leather lined and silk sewed. The features that give this Bible added value are Kelsch's Reference, which is printed on India paper and bound in the book, and the thumb index. Prices: the smaller size (4 by 5½ inches), Ten Shillings; the larger size (4¾ by 7 inches), Twelve Shillings. These figures do not include postage.

MINUTES OF NOTTINGHAM CONFERENCE.

THE Nottingham annual conference was held in Cobden Hall, Peachey Street, Nottingham, Sunday, March 16th, 1913. There were in attendance: President Rudger Clawson, of the European mission; President Amos R. Cook, of the Norwich conference; Elder Edwin Clawson, of the Sheffield conference; Elder Henry Perry, of the Leeds conference; Elder B. Spence, of the London conference; President Thomas E. Winegar and fifteen traveling elders of the Nottingham conference.

The opening session commenced at 10:30 a.m., by singing, "The morning breaks, the shadows flee." Invocation by Elder Edsel H. Adams.

President Thomas E. Winegar welcomed all in attendance. He expressed his pleasure at seeing so many present at the opening session, and prayed that we might have a time of rejoicing.

Elder John W. Haslam showed the fallacy of believing that all of God's word had been written in the Bible, and declared that new revelation had been given to man in this dispensation. It was upon this rock that Christ had built His Church. The speaker bore testimony to the truthfulness of the gospel, as taught by the Latter-day Saints, and urged all to investigate the same.

Elder Walter Rawlings spoke of the divinity of the mission of Joseph Smith. He said that as people do not accept the testimony of the enemies of Christianity, that it is an imposition, neither should they accept the testimony of the enemies of "Mormonism." The prophecies of Joseph Smith that had been fulfilled, as well as the great work he accomplished, should be sufficient to convince the earnest seeker after truth that he was no impostor, but a true Prophet of God.

President Clawson rejoiced in the peaceful spirit of the meeting. Commended the choir for its beautiful singing. He said that not only could God reveal Himself to prophets of old, but He still retained that power and privilege. He is not dumb, that He cannot speak, nor is He deaf that He cannot hear. Pointed out that after Joseph Smith received his first revelation from God, he did not attempt to organize a Church, for he had received no authority to do so, and not until he had been authorized under the hands of John the Baptist and of Peter, James and John did he preach the gospel or officiate in any of its ordinances. After he was ordained, he ordained others and sent them forth to proclaim the gospel. In the same manner each elder had been ordained, and had the authority to preach the word of God. Bore an impressive testimony that Joseph Smith and each of his successors was a true Prophet of God.

Benediction was pronounced by Elder Washburn C. Hunter.

The afternoon session commenced at 2:30 o'clock by singing, "We're not ashamed to own our Lord." Prayer by Elder Charles Buck.

President Winegar welcomed all to the conference. Presented the general and local authorities of the Church, who were unanimously sustained. He explained that by sustaining we do not mean to pay them a salary, but to aid and support them as the servants of God in their respective positions.

The sacrament was administered by Elders William J. Sessions and Roland B. Call.

Elder Walter J. Hallam said Christ organized but one Church in the meridian of time, and there was but one to-day that could teach the way of salvation unto mankind. "It is life eternal to know God and Jesus Christ," therefore it is necessary to have a proper conception of their being and attributes. This need not be a mystery to anyone if they would but accept the Scriptures.

President Amos R. Cook said the true gospel of Christ has certain marks by which it may be identified. In the Primitive Church, there were apostles, prophets, pastors, teachers, etc.; its ordinances were plain and simple. The gospel had been lost for many centuries, but had again been restored to the earth. Those who would find it must look for these marks of identification. Persecution was also a characteristic of the Church of God and is the heritage of the faithful.

President Clawson said that in all ages it had been the custom of the people to honor dead prophets and kill the living ones. When Christ came as the Savior of the world and declared Himself to be the Son of God, He was rejected, persecuted, and finally crucified by His own people. Death was the fate of nearly all His apostles and many of His worthy disciples. In this age they build monuments to dead prophets, but have killed a modern one as great as any who ever lived, save Jesus Christ only. The Savior said, "If they have persecuted me, they will also persecute you;" therefore, the true disciples of Christ should expect persecution. He exhorted the saints to be hopeful and not to be discouraged.

Benediction by Elder Wilford C. Brimley.

The evening session commenced at 6:30 o'clock by singing, "Ye chosen twelve." Prayer by Elder Thomas Martin.

The Conference Clerk read the statistical report of the past six months' labors of the elders of the Nottingham conference.

Elder Wilford C. Brimley spoke of the claim of Joseph Smith, that he had a vision in which he saw the Father and the Son. Said if this claim was false it should be exposed and rejected, but if true, it is of great importance, for it means that God has again restored His Church and kingdom to the earth. The speaker showed that angels had ministered unto men in former ages, and that it was not unreasonable to believe that Joseph Smith's claims were true.

President Clawson said if the gospel had been restored to the earth again, there must have been a time when it was taken away. If not, there was no need of a latter-day prophet. Spoke of the great apostasy which took place in the early centuries of the Christian era, and of the cruel persecution and martyrdom of the apostles and early Christians. When God's authorized servants were killed and the people had turned away from the truth, the true gospel was taken into heaven. In its place men upon the earth introduced other forms of religion, with which were incorporated many false and corrupt doctrines. In the place of apostles and prophets, cardinals, popes and vicars had been introduced. The reason the beautiful churches of to-day are so poorly attended is because they have strayed far from the truth. If the kingdom of God is upon the earth, people should seek to find it. There is but one door into the sheepfold, that of baptism, through which Christ has ordained all men shall enter, for He says, "Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit he cannot enter into the kingdom of God." Testified to the restoration of the gospel and that Joseph Smith was truly a Prophet of God.

Benediction by Elder William E. Cox.

The services were enlivened by the beautiful singing of the combined choirs of Leicester and Nottingham, under the able leadership of Elder William E. Cox.

The Relief Society, under the direction of President Mary A.

Harrison, kindly accommodated the visitors with luncheon and "tea."

On Saturday, March 15th, 1913, President Clawson met with the elders in Priesthood meeting. Many valuable instructions were given.

WILFORD C. BRIMLEY, Clerk of Conference.

FROM THE MISSION FIELD.

Hyde Branch Enjoys Ramble.—On Friday, March 21st, 1913, about forty of the saints and friends of the Hyde branch met at their rooms, 144 George Street, and then proceeded to "Reddish Vale," where all enjoyed their "tea," after which they returned to their rooms and spent the evening in games and social intercourse.

District Meetings.—A district meeting of the Linton branch (London conference) was held Sunday, March 23rd, 1913. President James B. Walkley and five missionaries were in attendance. After the opening exercises of the first session, at 2:30 p.m., President Walkley welcomed all present and trusted that they would be spiritually benefitted. The general and local authorities of the Church were presented by Conference Secretary E. G. Chamberlain and unanimously sustained. Elder D. C. Forsey said the simplest things are usually the most sublime. The first principles of the gospel, although simple, are absolutely essential to salvation and exaltation. Sister Annie Williamson and Elder E. G. Chamberlain sang the duet, "Oh, it is wonderful." Sister E. J. Walkley said none need worry over the persecution received by the Church, as it is God's work; our real worry should be for ourselves and our attitude toward our fellowmen. Elder S. A. Golding said that the world generally admits that Jesus is the Christ, but yet are not willing to follow His precepts. Our duty is to follow His example as far as possible, even to the laying down of our lives, if necessary, for the good of our fellowmen. Bore testimony that all the gifts and blessings enjoyed formerly by the saints are with us to-day. At the second session, Elder R. L. Nelson spoke on the necessity of sacrifice for that which we love. If we have love for the gospel, we will give up worldly pleasures for its sake. The great sacrifice of Christ showed how love for mankind can be idealized. Sister Annie Williamson sang "There is a green hill far away." President Walkley said the best way to preach the gospel is in our own lives. We should cause our friends to love us by manifesting our love toward them. We can overcome the evil one if we but keep out of his influence. Elder E. G. Chamberlain expressed his appreciation of being a member of the Church of Christ. The gospel teaches us to have love for all mankind, and we manifest that principle in endeavoring to get the truth before the nations of the earth. There was a good attendance at both services and an excellent spirit prevailed.

SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON FOR THEOLOGICAL DEPARTMENT.

CHURCH HISTORY.

LESSON XIII.—THE MISSOURI SAINTS FIND A NEW HOME.

Textbook: One Hundred Years of Mormonism (Evans), pp. 211-225.

I. A PEACEFUL EXODUS.

1. A tacit understanding with non-“Mormons,” in Clay County. (a) What it was. (b) Their rights in the matter. (c) Sentiment again turns against the saints. (d) The saints decide to leave.
2. Searching for a home. (a) Ray County at this time. (b) Visited before this by some brethren. (c) Creation of Caldwell and Davies Counties. (d) General sentiment concerning their removal. (e) On the part of the saints. (f) On the part of non-“Mormons.” (g) Growth of settlements.

II. THE NEW HOME.

1. Far West. (a) Where situated. (b) Rapid growth of. (c) Revelation concerning (Sec. 115.)
2. Adam Ondi-Ahman. (a) Location by Joseph and others. (b) Significance of so far as concerns: (c) The past. (d) The future. (e) Settlement of: (f) By whom. (g) Officers.
3. Other places settled by the saints. (a) Gallatin. (b) De Witt.

III. APOSTASY IN MISSOURI.

1. Of Oliver Cowdery. (a) Charges against him sustained. (b) His letter of withdrawal.
2. David Whitmer. (a) Charges against him. (b) Result.
3. Lyman E. Johnson.
4. Disaffection of Thomas B. Marsh (October, 1838).
5. President Taylor's statement concerning those days in Missouri.

DIED.

WHITE.—At Edinburgh (Scottish conference), March 21st, 1913, George White; born September 26th, 1857, at Clackmannan, Scotland; baptized April 14th, 1895, by Elder Daniel Stevens. President P. S. Condie and Elders A. M. Hunter, W. E. Allan, V. B. Anderson and C. I. Wilson held funeral service.

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